

REMARKS


This Amendment responds to the Office Action dated December 18, 2002 in which the Examiner required a new abstract, objected to claim 17, rejected claims 15, 16, 18 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §112 second paragraph and stated that claims 13, 14 and 20 are allowed.

Applicants respectfully point out to the Examiner that claim 19 is also pending. It is respectfully submitted that claim 19 is also allowed as indicated in the Office Action dated May 15, 2002.

A new abstract on a separate sheet is attached hereto. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner approves the new abstract.

As indicated above, claim 17 has been amended to further limit claim 13. In particular, in claim 13, only the substrate side of the buffer layer contains at least one kind of element selected from a group while in claim 17 the entire buffer layer contains at least one kind of elements selected from a group. It is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraws the objection to claim 17.

As indicated above, claim 15 has been amended to include an omitted word, claim 16 has been amended so that it reads properly, claim 18 has been amended for omitted words, claim 20 has been amended to correct spelling and grammatical errors and claim 21 has been amended for spelling errors as well as to provide proper antecedent basis. It is respectfully submitted that the rejection to the claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph no longer applies. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraws the rejection to the claims under 35 U.S.C. §112 second paragraph.



The prior art of record, which is not relied upon, is acknowledged. The reference is taken singularly or in combination do not anticipate or make obvious the claimed invention.

Thus it now appears that the application is in condition for reconsideration and allowance. Reconsideration and allowance at an early date are respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the Applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed within the currently set shortened statutory period, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such extension of time may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

In the event that any additional fees are due with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

Respectfully submitted,

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